



JPW

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 5495.0001-10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Lutz G. GUERTLER et al.) Group Art Unit: 1648
)
Application No.: 10/829,442)
) Examiner: J. Parkin
Filed: April 22, 2004)
) Confirmation No.: 6321
For: RETROVIRUS FROM THE HIV)
GROUP AND ITS USE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicants now reply to the Restriction Requirement dated January 11, 2007 ("Restriction Requirement"). The Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between the following groups of claims:

Group 1: Claims 45-49, relating to an antigen comprising a peptide present in the ENV protein of MvP-5180/91; and

Group 2: Claims 50-53, relating to a test kit for detecting antibodies that can bind to HIV-O.

Solely to facilitate prosecution and without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group 1, claims 45-49. Applicants make this election with traverse for the reasons set forth below.